THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c)No, Sir. No porposal as such for inclusion of four more districts of Orissa under National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Rice and three more districts for NFSM-Pulses have been received from the Government of Orissa. However, in a meeting of Agriculture Ministers of the States with Union Agriculture Minister on 16th October, 2007, the Agriculture Minister of Orissa raised an issue to replace three identified districts of Orissa *viz.* Sunergarh, Jharsuguda and Deoghar with four districts *i.e.,* Balasore, Cuttack, Bhubaneshwar and Ganjam under NFSM-Rice. The matter was examined. Since these districts do not fulfil the criteria for inclusion under NFSM-Rice, and thus, were not included.

Failure of current pesticides regulatory system

783. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current pesticides regulatory system in the country had failed to check manufacturing, distribution and use of spurious and sub-standard pesticides which has caused huge loss to farmers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to revamp such regulatory system and to prevent distribution of sub-standard perticides which is endangering the environment;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. It is not a fact that the current pesticides regulatory system in the country had failed to check manufacturing, distribution and use of spurious and sub-standard pesticides which has caused huge loss to farmers. The Government regulates the manufacture and use of pesticides under the provisons of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, registers pesticides only after having satisfied itself of their efficacy and safety. Quality assurances of pesticides is ensured by the State Government through regular drawl and analysis of pesticides samples through a network of Insecticide Inspectors, Insecticide Analysts and Pesticides Testing Laboratories. Under the provisons of the Act penal action is taken by the States against manufacturers of spurious and substandard pesticides.

The Government of India provides assistance to the States for establishing and strengthening of Pesticides Testing Laboratories. The Government also promotes judicious use of pesticides through its policy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Price of milk

784. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of milk and milk products, indicating demands and supply, State-wise during last three years.

(b) whether prices of milk has also been increased in all States with the increase in its production;

(c) if so, the average price of milk in the country at present;

(d) whether the price of milk is beyond the reach of most of the people, particularly poor and below poverty line segments;

(e) if so, Government's response thereto and whether Government has any proposal for setting up innovative dairy projects;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by Government for modernization of dairy units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The production of milk and milk products at National level is by and large sufficient to meet the domestic demand. Since major quantity of milk is handled in unorganized sector, no authentic data on production of milk products in the country is available. State-wise estimates of milk production in last three years is enclosed as Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Price of milk has increased in last few years mainly due to increase in the costs of production, procurement, processing and marketing. A list of average prices of milk in various cities in the country is enclosed as Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) to (f) The Government does not have any report of any difficulty faced by poor and below poverty line segments in regard to milk prices. However, Government is regularly monitoring the availability of milk and milk products to ensure availability at reasonable price in the country and takes necessary action as and when situation demands. Further, the Government is implementing various dairy development schemes, including those which provide scope for innovative dairy projects to enhance milk production.

(g) The Government of India supplements efforts of the State Governments to modernize dairy units in the country thorugh the following schemes:

(i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

(ii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production.

(iii) Intensive Dairy Development Programme.

(iv) Assistance to Cooperatives.

(v) *Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund.*

(vi) Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

Statement- I

Estimate of milk production 2004-05 *to* 2006-07

(*000 tonnes*)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7257	7624	7939
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	48	48	49
3.	Assam	739	747	751
4.	Bihar	4743	5060	5450
5.	Chhattisgarh	831	839	849

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Goa	57	56	57
7.	Gujarat	6745	6960	7533
8.	Haryana	5222	5299	5367
9.	Himachal Pradesh	870	869	872
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1422	1400	1400
11.	Jharkhand	1330	1335	1401
12.	Karnataka	3917	4022	4124
13.	Kerala	2025	2063	2119
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5506	6283	6375
15.	Maharashtra	6567	6769	6978
16.	Manipur	75	77	77
17.	Meghalaya	71	73	75
18.	Mizoram	16	15	16
19.	Nagaland#	69	74	67
20.	Orissa	1283	1342	1431
21.	Punjab	8554	8909	9168
22.	Rajasthan	8310	8713	9375
23.	Sikkim	46	48	49
24.	Tamil Nadu	4784	5474	5560
25.	Tripura	86	87	89
26.	Uttar Pradesh	16517	17356	18095
27.	Uttarakhand	1195	1206	1213
28.	West Bengal	3790	3891	3982
29.	A and N Islands	24	20	23
30.	Chandigarh	43	46	46
31.	D and N Haveli #	4	5	5
32.	Daman & Diu #	1	1	1
33.	Delhi	303	310	289
34.	Lakshadweep	1	2	2
35.	Puducherry	41	43	45
	TOTAL:	92487	97066	100872

#Provisional

Statement -II

Yearly Centre-wise Average for Retail Prices Commodity -Milk (Rs. per litre)

Centre	2007	2008 (upto Feb.)
Delhi	18.76	20.00
Lucknow	21.88	22.02
Shimla	16.00	16.00
Ahmedabad	20.01	20.19
Bhopal	19.28	20.00
Jaipur	13.64	14.00
Mumbai	18.34	20.00
Aizwal	28.00	28.00
Bhubaneshwar	17.26	18.00
Guwahati	18.89	20.00
Kolkata	27.80	29.98
Patna	15.34	16.00
Shilong	30.73	31.00
Bangalore	14.35	16.00
Chennai	15.25	15.50
Hyderabad	17.79	18.00
Thiruvananthapuram	16.70	17.33
ALL INDIA LAVERAGE:	19.41	20.10

Part (d) price of milk sold in loose are cheaper than packaged milk.

Land taken on lease from land owners

785. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many industrial and business houses have taken possession of a vast land on lease from land owners and allowing the farmers to cultivate and produce grains that are being purchased by the lease land holders; and

(b) if so, whether this is not endangering the entire food security of our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The Central Government has requested State Governments by circulating a Model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act and the Model Rules thereunder, for making provisions to facilitate contract farming which envisages cultivation of specified crops by the farmers under an agreement for a sponsoring agency so that the produce could be sold to the sponsoring agency at a pre-decided price. Under this arrangement, the Central Government is not recommending the leasing of the land of the farmers to the industrial and business houses. Government is not maintaining any information regarding leasing of land by the farmers to the industrial and business houses for cultivation purposes.